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NQ17 Mandan NQ17

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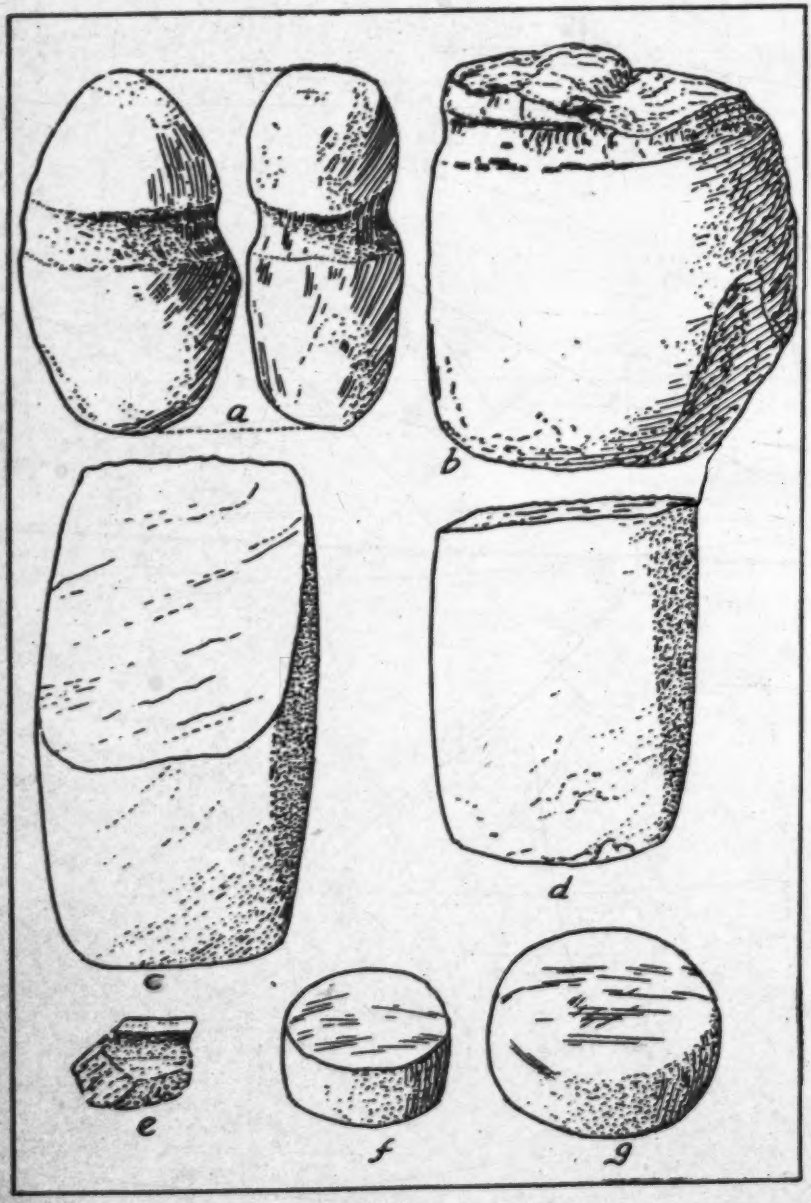

LARGE STONE OBJECTS. ¼

[Facing p. 162]

3:Will and Spinden E-5 (1905) 1906
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struction, and two of the large depressions were partly explored and established as house sites. A number of cache pits were cleared. The size of the ditch was ascertained and work was done on all the types of remains within the ditch. The smaller type of mound was also investigated, as well as the dump heap along the bluff. The only thing which was not located was the palisade described as on the outer side of the ditch.

STONE:—Stone was used by the inhabitants of this old village as material for many articles, large and small. The larger stone objects comprised hammers, axes, celts, discoidal mullers, and large elliptical chipped blades. The smaller specimens may be classed under knives, arrowheads and spearheads, scrapers, chippers, and decorated stones of uncertain use. Some of the implements probably had other uses than those suggested by this list.

Although few large stone pieces were found, the variety was considerable. Plate XXXII, fig. *b*, represents the lower portion of a heavy granite maul. It is in a crumbly state owing to the action of fire. The groove is narrow but well marked, and is without any protruding rim or flange. The striking surface is flat and somewhat elliptical in shape, measuring four inches in its longest diameter.

Plate XXXII, fig. *a*, shows a hammer of red quartzite. This implement, made from a stream-worn stone which did not require much shaping, is divided into two nearly equal parts by a well-made pecked groove. This hammer was found in a boulder layer on hardpan at the east end of Work 2.

One crudely made grooved axe was found, the material being a hard greenstone, probably diorite. The two edges were roughly chipped into shape and the wide, shallow groove about the middle was made by grinding or pecking.

Two axes, showing much finer workmanship, are without grooves, and belong to the class known as celts. These are shown in Plate XXXII, figs. *c* and *d*. They are made of pecked and polished diorite and are bilaterally symmetrical.

Four discoidal stones were unearthed. Two of these were in perfect condition and are shown in Plate XXXII, figs. *f* and *g*, the other two were broken. These discoidal stones are of granite

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or quartzite, well shaped, and measuring from an inch to an inch and a half in thickness, and from an inch and a half to three inches in diameter. Most of the signs of grinding and wear are shown on the circumference. One shows discoloration on both of the faces. The use of these stones is problematical. They may have been used as mullers to grind paint, as the discoloration on one of them suggests, or they may have been used in some game. They resemble the Chungkee stone of the Southern tribes. In the Mandan game of Skohpe, stones described as "rings" were used.

The large chipped blade forms were probably put to a variety of uses. Some may have been used for lanceheads and some for spikes to be inset in war clubs. The largest of these blades is shown in Plate XXXIII, fig. *e*. It measures about six inches in length and is made of a gray chert or fine grained argillite. Shorter blades of the same material are shown in Plate XXXIII, figs. *a*, *b*, *d*, *f*. These are all roughly chipped, and do not present much of a cutting edge. Figs. *g* to *k* illustrate various forms of other large blades.

The characteristic forms of the smaller implements are shown in Plate XXXIV. The knives (Figs. *a*, *g* to *k*) show a variety of shapes. They average about three and a half inches in length and about five eights of an inch in width. Some are double pointed, and some are squared off at one end. Some are symmetrical in outline and others are not. The material commonly used is a fine grained gray quartzite, but sometimes specimens made from dark colored flints are met with. Many knives were found in the mounds and in the cache pits.

It is impossible to draw any definite line between the different classes of small implements. Thus, what are termed spearheads may have been used for knives, and vice versa. Arrowheads differ from spearheads only in size, the former seldom being over one and a half inches in length. A fine leaf-shaped spearhead is shown in Plate XXXIV, fig. *d*. It is made of brownish flint. A wide-stemmed, elliptical one of the same material is shown in Fig. *r*, while Fig. *o* shows a perforator.

Arrowheads of most of the common shapes were found, although they were not very abundant. The material used

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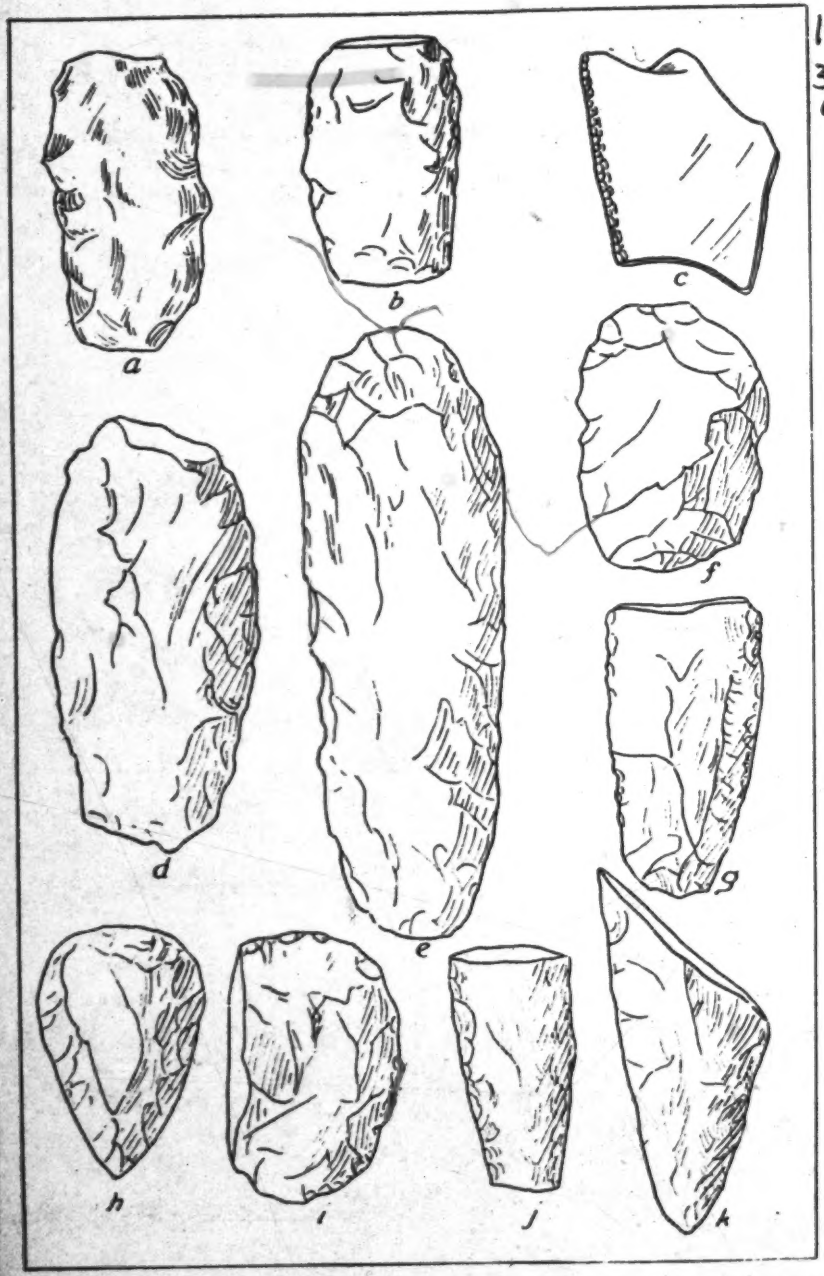

LARGE CHIPPED BLADES. ½

[P. 164 (A)]

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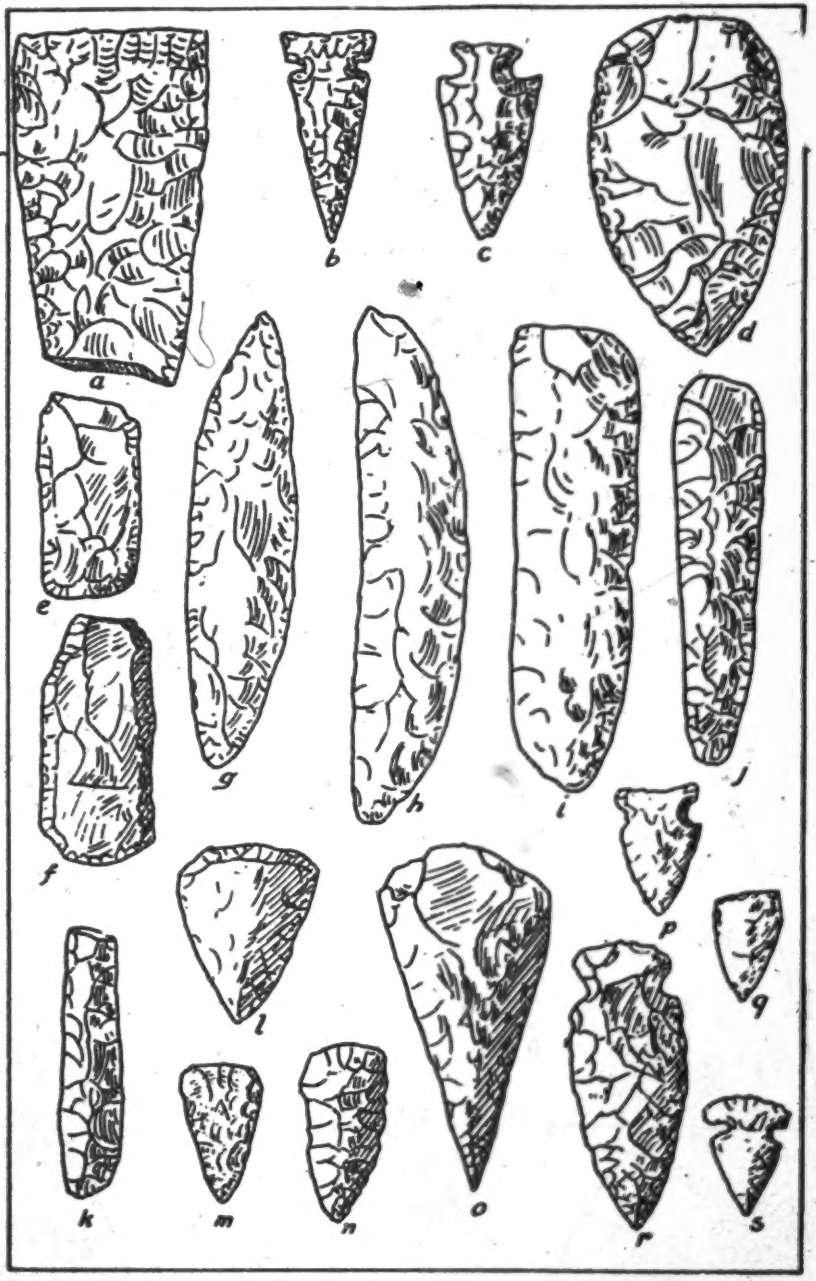

SMALL STONE OBJECTS: KNIVES, PERFORATORS, SCRAPERS, SPEARHEADS, AND ARROWHEADS. ⅓

[P. 164 (B)]

3:Will and Spinden E-5 (1905) 1906
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for arrowheads was largely flint. A selection of the different types is shown in Plate XXXIV, figs. *b*, *c*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *q* and *s*.

Flint, chert, and quartzite scrapers were in great abundance. Some were of the "turtle back" form (Plate XXXIV, fig. *l*), flat on one side and convex on the other. Some were irregular flakes with one chipped edge (Plate XXXIII, fig. *c*). Some were roughly rectangular in shape (Plate XXXIV, figs. *e* and *f*), while others were leaf-shaped (Plate XXXIII, fig. *h*).

Flint chips were often found in layers and pockets. Near the bottom of the central cache pit in Work 5, an extensive layer of red and yellow flint chips was encountered. Double handfuls of flint and chert chips were found in various places in the mounds.

Pieces of pumice-stone were often met with in the different village sites. They were used, apparently, as whetstones to sharpen bone awls, and are sometimes deeply grooved as a result of such grinding. Other stones were also used for this purpose.

Plate XXXII, fig. *e*, shows a rasp for smoothing arrowshafts. It is made of a coarse yellow sandstone. It is very similar to rasps found among the Omaha.

Pebbles showing at the ends an abraded surface were common objects in the mounds and cache pits. These were chipping stones and were used in working flint and chert. They were of various kinds of stone, red jasper, diorite, quartzite and sandstone being noted.

Water-worn boulders, seldom over six inches in diameter, were common in all parts of the site. They were such as could be picked up on the prairie or buttes. Layers of boulders were found around the fireplaces in the two house sites explored. An extensive layer was found on hardpan in the eastern end of Work 2.

Some of these boulders gave evidence of having been broken. One showed signs of pecking. This one was oval in shape, and may have been used in shaping the bottoms of pots.

There still remains for consideration a class of ornamented stone objects of uncertain use. Three rectangular flat stones come under this head. All of these stones have diagonal cross

3: Will and Spinden E-5 (1905) 1906
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X 172 markings on one side. The largest is shown in Fig. 4, *a*. It is about two inches in width by two and a half in length, and a ●324 quarter of an inch in thickness. One face is smooth, and the other is marked by double diagonal lines which pass through

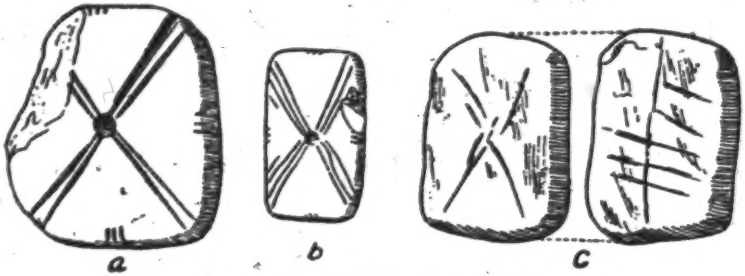

FIG. 4. RECTANGULAR STONE OBJECTS. ¼

an indentation in the center. Each edge has three notches. Fig. 4, *b*, shows a similar stone object, smaller, and somewhat longer in proportion. It is made of catlinite. This has also three notches on each edge, but the diagonal lines are triple, though not so definite, nor so deeply incised. Fig. 4, *c*, shows a cruder stone object of the same general character as the two above described. The material is a yellow clay-stone. The stone is rudely shaped and marked. It has no notches on the edge. On one face is a diagonal marking, and on the other a series of lines, some of which cross a line running lengthwise of the stone.

The stones may have been used as counters in some sort of game. Somewhat similar articles of bone were found, one of which is shown in Plate XXXVI, fig. *r*.

A small piece of the tubular base of a pipe of catlinite was uncovered in the refuse, near the bottom of the central cache-pit in Work 5.

X 172 386 Besides the worked stone and boulders, various mineral paints and colored earths were found. Lumps of fine yellow clay, which may well have been used for paint, were collected in the mounds. Small quantities of red paint were found in loose lumps and adhering to fragments of pottery. Pieces of mica-schist, deeply tinged with iron, may have been ground up into brown paint.